## Bertram Hawker Kindergarten Newsletter

**Week 7, Term 1, 2015.**  
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Email: [BertramHawker.Kindergarten925@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:BertramHawker.Kindergarten925@schools.sa.edu.au)

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<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
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<td>9 March</td>
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<td><strong>Adelaide Cup Public Holiday</strong></td>
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<td>16 March</td>
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<td>21-22 March</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Governing Council meeting 7.30 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Harmony Day &amp; Family Lunch 12-1pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Harmony Day &amp; Family Lunch 12-1pm</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Persian New Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>Working Bee, 9-12 SUNDAY</strong></td>
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<th>Week 9</th>
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<td><strong>Kindy Photos</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Shared green and yellow healthy morning snack</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Twilight Kindergarten 6-7.30pm</td>
<td>Unley librarian visits kindy</td>
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<td>30 March</td>
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<td><strong>Trent Hill Indigenous visit</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Good Friday</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Easter Monday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Trent Hill Indigenous visit</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Last day of term 1</strong></td>
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### The Kindergarten Staff Team

**Director- Margie Colton**  
**Teachers- Nadia Caon, Jennifer Ross, Shiva Pakrou**  
**Early Childhood Educators- Lyn Myall, Jan Mills, Julie Mosheev, Uzma Ali Kazmi**  
**Speech Pathologist- Mathew Head**  
**Playgroup Coordinator- Julie Mosheev**  
**Bilingual Support Worker- Vimla Lagisleti**

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<tr>
<td>Nadia</td>
<td>Margie</td>
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<td>Julie (Play Group)</td>
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<td>Jennifer</td>
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<td>Shiva</td>
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<td>Lyn</td>
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<td>Jan</td>
<td>Julie</td>
<td>Shiva</td>
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**Our values and vision make us who we:**  
... a community of children, educators are and families ... learning with and from one another... having fun ... connecting with nature, the world and each other... facing challenges with respect and a sense of adventure  
(from our Philosophy Statement)
I can’t believe it is seven weeks since we began this term although a lot has happened during that time. The children have settled into kindergarten so well and it has been a pleasure to get to know all of their different personalities. We are all enjoying this beautiful weather especially in our amazing outdoor environment.

I will email a program for this next five weeks of term with experiences that build on what we have been learning and on the children’s interests.

Professional development focus for 2015
Our staff team has done a lot of work together over the years focusing on literacy, especially oral language, phonological awareness and print concepts.

This year we are involved in literacy and numeracy research exploring the question, *How do children engage in their world in a numerate way...and how do we extend this at kindergarten?* Our professional development pupil free day on Tuesday 3rd March was an opportunity for us to learn more about how children learn through inquiry and to share ideas and information about children’s inquiries and numeracy development at kindergarten this year.

Jo Fahey facilitated the morning session and Nadia, Shiva and Jennifer led the afternoon session. Everyone said that it was a worthwhile day with lots of learning and we came away with new ideas and practical strategies that we are already implementing and will continue to use this year.

Checking Pigeon Holes
To keep up-to-date with kindergarten happenings and information, please check your pigeon hole on the front verandah next to the sign-in table daily. Any injuries or incidents are reported to parents through a notice in your pigeon hole so it is important to check your pigeon hole at the end of the day.

Governing Council
The next Bertram Hawker Kindergarten Governing Council Meeting is at 7.30pm next Monday 16th March. All families are welcome.

At this meeting our 2015 Quality Improvement Plan and 2015 budget will be presented.

Congratulations and thank you to David Bentley who was elected as our Governing Council chairperson, Claire Chilman, Vice Chairperson and Samantha Buxton, secretary.

At our first meeting we formed sub-committees and would love some other parents to join these committees.

Please talk to Margie or contact the parent convener of the group if you are interested. This year goes so quickly and it is a great chance to be involved in making this kindergarten an even better one and to work together with other parents and teachers.

Conveners:
Vanessa Pembshaw: **Gardening development**
development of front garden area and application for landcare grant

Steph Jeukens: **Policy Review**- updating our philosophy statement and policies

Jody Williamson: **Community Events/fundraising**- organising our term three Family Art Show

Claire Chilman: **Community Links**- strengthening links with our local community, especially the elderly

Vanessa Pembshaw: **Parent Involvement**- Parent information sessions, Parent Initiative Grant

Contact details for Governing Council members including conveners of sub-
committees will be emailed to all families soon with our friendship list.

Food Policy-Nut Awareness
‘Nude food’ that is less processed and lower in sugar and fat is so much better for your child’s health and wellbeing now and in their future so a good start is vital.

Please try to avoid packaged snacks, especially ones that have high sugar content like LCM bars, chips and fruit boxes.

We recommend that children bring fresh fruit or vegetables, savory biscuits or sandwiches for snack time. To encourage independence we suggest children select their own fruit and have it cut at home if necessary.

It is also important that children can open and close their containers independently so perhaps practice this at home and make sure that they can. Some of the containers are very difficult to open even for the teachers!


Another website that has great ideas for eating well is: [http://www.wellnourished.com.au](http://www.wellnourished.com.au).

As a number of children attending our kindergarten have a nut allergy parents are requested NOT to send food to kindergarten that contains nuts. This includes peanut paste, nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil, as well as foods containing nuts.

Please do not send foods containing nuts to any kindergarten event, including morning teas and shared lunches.

Put your child’s lunch in the trolley, afternoon snack in the box in the kitchen and leave the morning snack packed separately in your child’s bag.

Children can help themselves to cups of filtered water at kindergarten.

Shared green and Yellow Healthy Morning Snack.

To promote healthy eating and less rubbish to landfill we are holding our second shared healthy snack morning on:

**Wednesday 25th March and Thursday 26th March**

Please send healthy food that is green or yellow to share for morning snack.

We are trying to cut down the amount of rubbish sent from kindergarten to landfill. A high percentage of our landfill rubbish comes from snack and lunch wrappers. This is why we send wrappings back home. You can help to reduce landfill by sending more ‘wrap-free’ snacks to kindergarten. Reusable plastic zip lock bags and containers with compartments that children can open independently are ideal.

Every piece of packaging or excess food that we can save from landfill makes a difference.
Parent Involvement
To extend our learning within the child protection curriculum about feeling safe, belonging to a family and community and appreciation of diversity, we encourage parents and grandparents to come into kindergarten to share their stories and interests.

We invite you to join in with our curriculum. The children are very interested in learning from parents about different life experiences.

You can come in to share an activity with a small or large group.

Please add your name to the sheet that is displayed on the front verandah to indicate in which session you would like to be involved.

Some suggestions for sharing are:
- Playing a musical instrument
- Sharing your occupation
- Culture
- Cooking
- Reading stories
- An interest
- Travel stories or photographs
- Gardening

We need a supply of fresh gum leaves for our spiny leaf insects each week. If you are happy to bring some to kindergarten weekly please let us know. We change the leaves and water and check for eggs with the children, which is a good opportunity for them to closely observe the insects and be actively involved in their care and life cycle.

Working Bee
There will be a Working Bee at kindergarten on Sunday, 22nd March, 9am-12 noon. These are always good fun and a great chance to meet other families. Children are welcome to come along.

A list of jobs will be on display on the front verandah prior to the working bee.

Twilight Kindergarten
An Evening Kindergarten session will be held at 6-7.30pm on Tuesday 24th March.

This is an opportunity for you to spend time at kindergarten with your child and to share in their learning.

A sheet is displayed on the front verandah for you to write your name if you would like to come to Twilight Kindergarten.

Harmony Day and Family Multicultural Lunch ‘Everyone Belongs’
All families are invited to a Multicultural Lunch to celebrate Harmony Day at 12-1pm on either Tuesday 17th March or Wednesday 18th March, 12-1pm.

Come and celebrate the cultural diversity of our varied family backgrounds, including families from China, Iran, Japan, Korea, Pakistan, Malaysia, Holland, Singapore, Croatia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Italy, India…

Please bring a plate of food to share with parents and children.

Reminder: Make sure that all food brought to kindergarten does not contain nuts.

Sun Safety
We provide hats for children to wear at kindergarten. They remain at kindergarten and are washed regularly. Children can only play outside if they are wearing a hat.

Children need to wear shirts or dresses with sleeves to protect their shoulders.
**Kindergarten Photo Day**  
On **Monday 23rd March and Tuesday 24th March**, Leanne King of Crackerjack Photographic Studios will take individual and group photographs at kindergarten.

I will email another form which needs to be returned with payment by this Friday 13th March.

The cost is as follows:  
Group Photo only $20.00  
Individual Package  
$38.00 (2 individual photos of your child)  
Both Sets  
$45.00 (Group & 2 individual photos)

If you would like to have your child photographed, please return the form inside an envelope with all the details filled out and correct payment inside (Cash or cheque payable to Crackerjack Photography)

When the photos are delivered you will have a choice of at least 4 to pick your 2 portraits from and the extra photos will also be available for purchase, as will reprints and enlargements.

**PLEASE NOTE** – Individual Photos will only be taken once the envelope has been returned  
All children will be in the group shot so please tell a staff member if you don’t want your child included.

**Home Borrowing**  
A selection of books and interactive kits on the verandah are available for children and parents to borrow. Please write your name and date that the books are borrowed and returned.

A Literacy Resource Folder is located on the table on the front verandah. A master copy is for reference and to stay at kindergarten. A second copy is available for home borrowing. You are welcome to make copies of articles of interest.

**Arrival and pick up times**  
Kindergarten session times are 8.15-3.45pm.  
Please make sure that you always let a staff member know that your child has arrived at kindergarten and also let us know when you are collecting your child early.

At the beginning of sessions you are welcome to support your child to settle at an activity or to ‘drop and run’ providing we are aware that your child has arrived. If your child needs assistance to part from you, please approach a staff member so that we can help.

Please ensure that you do not leave your child before the starting time and please pick your child up on time.

**Douglas, Suzie and Dogger Roster**  
You will receive a roster for borrowing Douglas, Suzie or Dogger. Children are encouraged to write or draw in their book about the experiences they have shared at home with the ‘character’. On their return the children talk about their experiences in small groups. This assists children’s sense of belonging at kindergarten as they share their experiences with other children and educators. When it is your child’s turn to take one of them home, please remind a teacher so that your child does not miss their turn.
Zucchini Fritters
Here is the recipe for Zucchini Fritters that so many of the children enjoyed making and eating. We used fresh zucchini and parsley from our garden as well as fresh eggs from Scissors our hen.

1 small grated onion
1 clove crushed garlic
100 gms fetta
600 gms grated zucchini
2 eggs
2 tablespoons parsley
2 tablespoons mint
50 gms plain flour
30 gms rice flour

Place grated zucchini in a colander with a sprinkling of salt. Allow to sit for 10 minutes before squeezing excess fluid from zucchini with hands.
Place all ingredients into a bowl and mix well. Heat up 1 tablespoon of oil in fry pan. Place dessertspoons of the mixture into pan and flatten slightly to fry on both sides until golden. Yum. You could serve with a squeeze of lemon.

Chicken news
We were very sad last week when one of our new chickens, Ginger, got sick and died. The vet said that she had a parasite that is fairly common to chickens and cannot be passed on to people. Today some parents thoroughly cleaned the chicken house out -thank you so much. Our other two chickens, Scissors and Honey Bee, have gone away for a holiday. They will return to kindergarten next week after they have been given worm treatment to make sure they don’t have the parasite.

Parent communication
If you have any concerns at all, no matter how big or small, please feel welcome to talk with a staff member.

If we are unavailable at drop off or pick up times you are welcome to telephone-the best time is 10-11.30am or 2-2.30pm.

Recycle Materials wanted
Please remember to bring your recycle materials to kindergarten, such as plastic lids, corks, wool, plastic containers and boxes. The children can make good use of them as they create with wood work and collage.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE
All babies, children and young people under 18 years are welcome to attend the School Dental Service. Dental care is FREE for most children.

SA Dental Service participates in the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. A small fee may apply for children who are not eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule.

All dental care provided is FREE for preschool children.

To locate your local School Dental Clinic, or for more information about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule, please visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au